

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Joe Courtney today announced that, since the beginning of 2011, his office has helped return \$1,331,686 to eastern Connecticut citizens who were owed Social Security checks, veterans' benefits, tax refunds and other payments from the federal government. Since Courtney's arrival in Congress in 2007, his casework staff has helped thousands of constituents cut through bureaucratic red tape.

"Almost every day for the past five years, my office has received a call from someone in eastern Connecticut asking for help solving a problem," **said Congressman Courtney.** "Every dollar we are talking about today has a story – a person who was fighting an uphill battle to get the help he or she deserved. I hope their success in recovering what was owed to them inspires others to contact my office right away."

In the cases where Courtney's office helped recovered taxpayer money, constituents have saved anywhere from \$105 in a dispute with the IRS to \$124,000 – payment secured for a Vietnam veteran for service-connected disability related to Agent Orange exposure.



Congressman Courtney's staff compiled video testimonials from some of the eastern Connecticut residents who were helped this year and whose savings contributed to the \$1.3

million total. Residents in the video are from Ellington, North Stonington and Madison. You can watch them tell their stories here:

In total, the casework breakdown of savings is as follows:

Social Security: \$950,698
Veterans' benefits: \$160,543
Housing: \$143,400
Pensions: \$34,725
FEMA: \$23,870
IRS: \$18,450

Congressman Courtney's office can assist constituents with a range of issues including: Social Security, Medicare, veterans' benefits, immigration/visas, passports, loan modifications, requests for flags and commendations, service academy nominations, and more. He has two offices in eastern Connecticut:

Norwich District Office
101 Water Street, Suite 301
Norwich, CT 06360
860.886.0139

Enfield District Office
77 Hazard Ave, Unit J
Enfield, CT 06082
860.741.6011

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